INTEREST

By

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INTRODUCTION TO INTEREST

- Interests in fact form an integral aspect of personality and they are not outside personality. Interests largely mean the individual’s preferences to engage himself in a particular type of work in preference to another type of work.
- Interest refers to a feeling of liking associated with a reaction, to a specific thing or situation.

DEFINITION

Strong defines “Interests as activities for which we have liking or dislike and which we go towards or away from.

”According to **Murphy**,” Interests are conditioned stimuli, related to goal objects and expressed as likes or dislikes of activities, objects, characteristics or people in the environment.”

DEVELOPMENT

- Interests cannot be objectively measured, can be only estimated by self-report, since it is a subjective feeling. Interests act as a stimulant and aid to attention, with a tendency to become absorbed in experience and continue it. Interests help in identifying oneself in a particular action and promotes satisfaction of motives.

DEVELOPMENT

- They are shaped by both heredity and environment not permanently fixed and they bind people in their direction. Interests have a special role in the personality make up, determining one’s intellectual, physical, cultural, social, occupational and recreational activities, but vary with age and differ among individuals.

TYPE OF INTEREST

- Interests are also divided into **extrinsic** or **intrinsic** interest. Extrinsic interests are connected with activities that give rise to satisfaction or pleasure. Intrinsic interests are those that are connected with the activity itself. An intrinsic interest centered on the activity itself is a more basic or real interest.

UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE

- However, the differentiation is not easy. Sometimes an interest may be intrinsic, sometimes it may be extrinsic. Ex.:- Playing tennis or cricket for the sake of playing is in intrinsic interest. The individual derives pleasure from it. That is, from playing. Playing the same gamers to earn a reward or trophy of titles is an extrinsic interest. The pleasure lies in winning the money or trophy or title.

ANOTHER TYPE OF INTEREST

Expressed interest refers to the verbal expression of interest in an object, activity, task or occupation.

Manifested interests refer to the actual participation in an activity or occupation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTEREST

- Interests are not like aptitudes. They are acquired by the individual in the course of his development. Some interests may be present at one time and disappear at another.
- Rarely does an individual's all interests last long. Thus, an interest is not permanent, it is acquired during the life time and it may be modified. However, certain basic interests seem to last for a life time.
- At school we expect the pupils to be interested in reading books, playing games etc. when they grow up and enter working life some may keep the interest of playing. It is interests that

TESTING INTEREST

Tested interests refer to interests as measured by objectives tests, as differentiated from inventories which are based on subjective estimates. Inventoried interests refer to interests as measured by lists of activities etc, to which the subject responds on the basis of his likes and dislikes.

TESTING TOOL

- Interests may be assessed through self-report, observation methods, Tests, Inventories and Questionnaires.
- One of the widely used Interest Inventories is Thurstone’s Interest Schedule. Other examples of Interests Inventories are Kuder Occupational Interest Inventory, Strong –Campbell Interest Inventory, Strong’s Vocational Interest Blank, Chatterji’s Non-Language Preference Record, Brained Occupational Preference Inventory etc.

STRONG'S VOCATIONAL INTEREST BLANK (SVIB)

- Interests provide useful information for guidance in education and vocational areas' There are a number of psychological instruments to assess or measure interests. The most well known and highly sophisticated instrument is Strong's Vocational Interest Blank (SVIB). The instrument is in two forms, one for men and another for women. The Strong's Vocational Interest Blank (SVIB) requires a very long time to administer and to score. In USA it is used popularly because the test is machine scored. The scoring can be done in less than 5 minutes.

KUDER'S PREFERENCE RECORD (KPR)

- Another tool or instrument that is used to asses interests is Kuder's Preference Record (KPR). This is also a very important instrument because of its developmental procedure while the SVIB is an empirical test. The KPR is a rational test of interests. This test was developed by Kuder by employing an entirely different procedure. He prepared by a comprehensive list of interests and each interest was scaled by individuals from different occupational groups. The interests which were rated high by a particular occupational group were called the interests on mechanical computational, scientific, persuasive etc.

THURSTONE'S INTEREST BLANK

- At the school level, a very simple tool called Thurstone's Interest Blank is used. This has the advantage of simplicity. The test has 100 squares obtained from 10 columns and 10 rows.
- The ten columns stands for 10 areas of interests like physical, sciences, biological sciences, artistic interest, literally interest, music, persuasive interest and so on. The rows also have the same titles. In each of the squares two occupational titles are printed.
- The two occupations may belong to the same area of interest or belong to two different occupations. The pupil is asked to read each occupation title and think whether he likes such occupation. If he likes the concerned occupation he is required to draw a circle round it. If he is not interested or does not like it he is

GUIDANCE

- Interest Inventories are of greater value in vocational guidance, career counseling and in Industrial personnel selection. It helps in the choice of curricula, course, vocations and recreational activities for students and enable the Parents, Teachers and Counsellors to know the kinds and intensity of the testee’s interest.

GUIDANCE

- The guidance worker with the help of this objectives test information obtained from achievement, aptitude, personality and interests can help the pupil to obtain a much better and deeper understanding of his own personality.
- The counselor also has a better understanding of the counsellee (pupil) and thus can guide him (pupil) better with regard to two major areas of choice, namely, what courses they may pursue or choose or what type of or kind of job that they may take up. Thus in the areas of educational and vocational guidance these

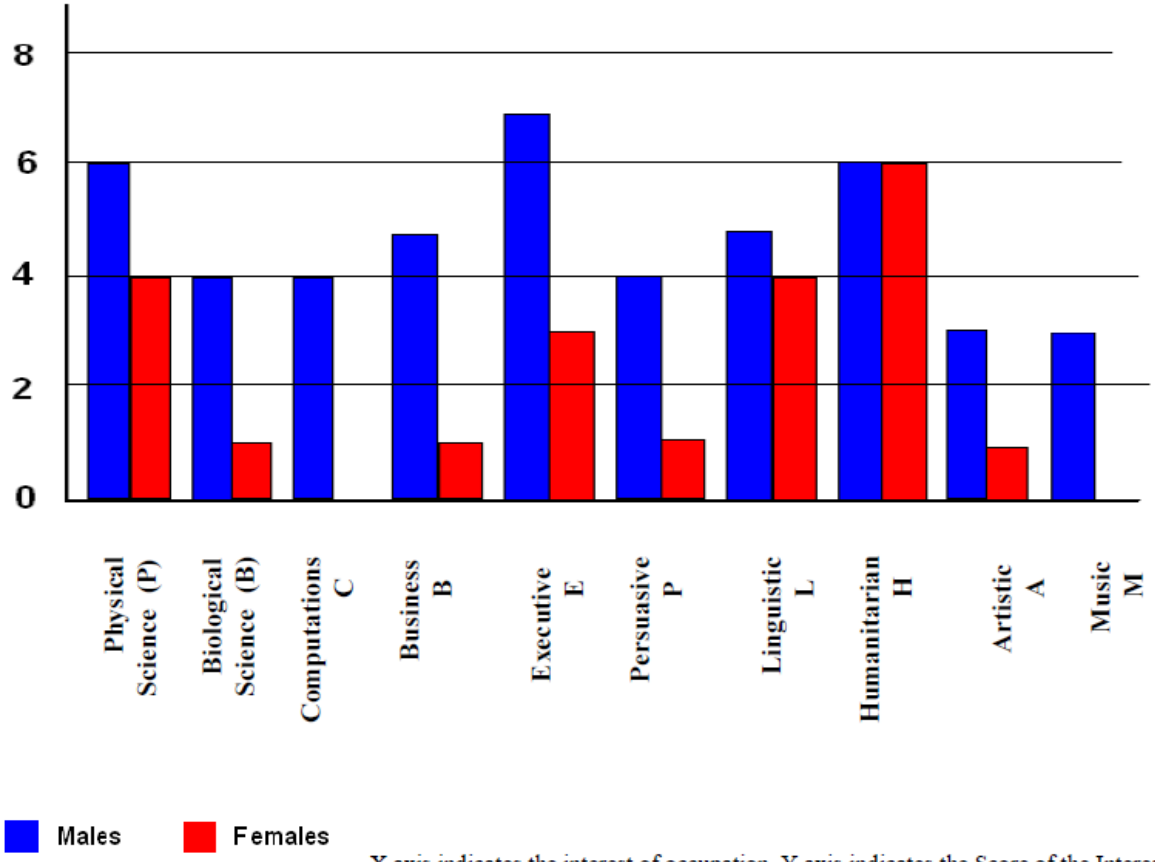
DIAGRAM SHOWS THE GROUP INTEREST

NEHRU YUVA KENDRA - PONDICHERRY

TSUNAMI COUNSELLING & CAREER GUIDANCE CENTER

OCCUPATIONAL INTEREST OF TSUNAMI AFFECTED YOUTH IN PONDICHERRY NORTH

This bar diagram shows the Interest of Tsunami affected Youth in Pondicherry (Kalapet, Kanagachettigulam and Pillaichavady) preferences in **Thurstone's Interest Schedule**. Test conducted at Kalapet on August 2005



X axis indicates the interest of occupation, Y axis indicates the Score of the Interest

DIAGRAM SHOWS THE GROUP INTEREST

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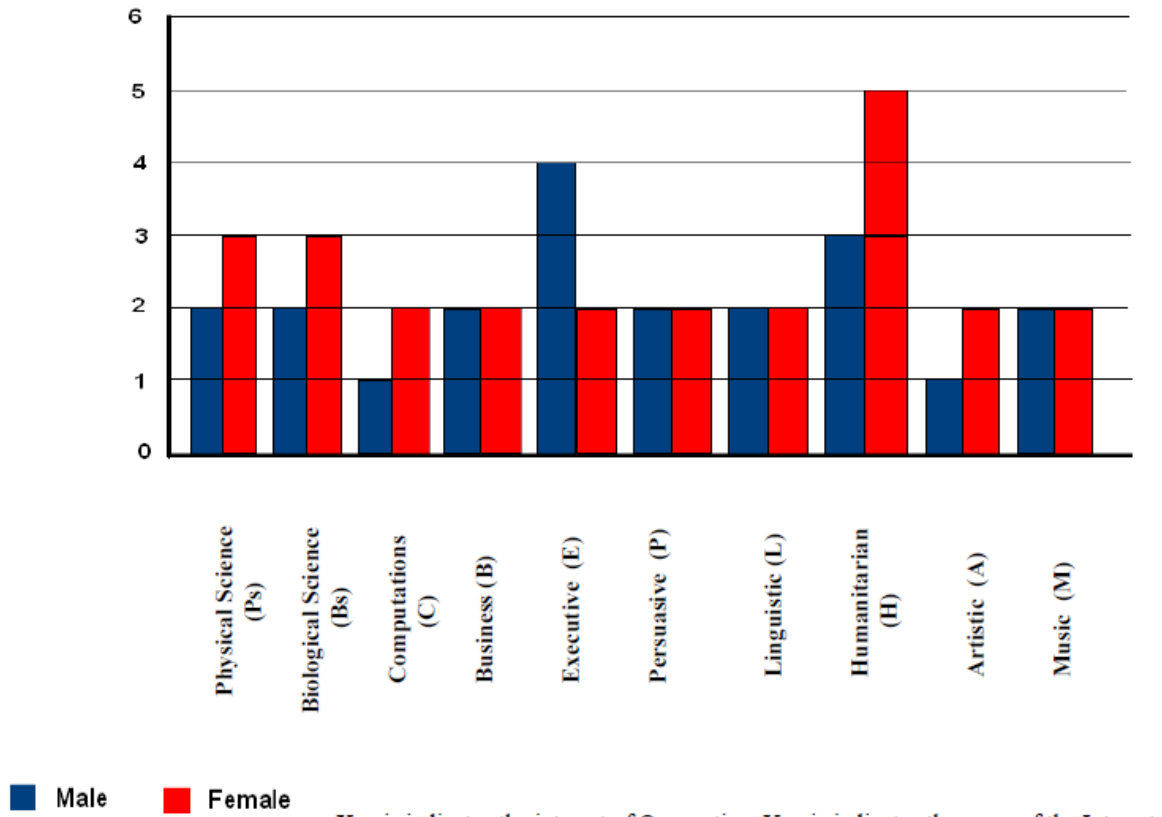
OCCUPATIONAL INTEREST OF THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED YOUTH IN PONDICHERRY SOUTH

This bar diagram shows the Interest of Tsunami affected Youth in Pondicherry (Pooranankuppam, Pudukuppam and Edayarpalayam) preferences in **Thurstone's Interest Schedule**. Test conducted at Pooranankuppam on January 2006.



X axis indicates the interest of Occupation, Y axis indicates the score of the Interest

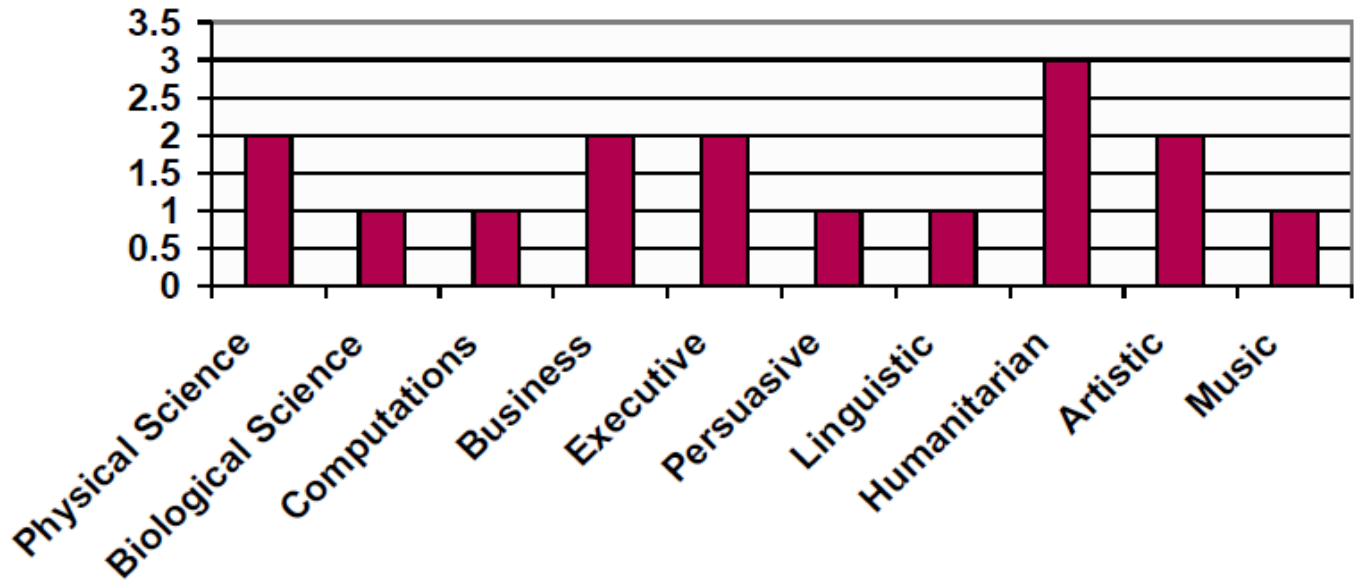
DIAGRAM SHOWS THE GROUP INTEREST

NEHRU YUVA KENDRA - PONDICHERRY

Tsunami Counselling & Career Guidance Centre

OCCUPATIONAL INTEREST OF THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED YOUTH IN PONDICHERRY MIDDLE

This bar diagram shows the interest of Tsunami affected Youth in Pondicherry (Veerampattinam, Ariyankuppam) preferences in **Thurstone's Interest Schedule.** Test conducted at Veerampattinam on April 2006



THANK YOU